

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the patentability of the claims of the referenced application is solicited in view of the following comments. Applicants wish to thank examiner Franklin for courtesies shown their representative during recent telephone conferences concerning this application. The substance of these telephone conferences is encompassed in the new office action referred to above and in the following remarks.

During the referenced telephone conferences, Examiner Franklin indicated that she was prepared to allow claim 20, and all of the claims dependent there from, of this application except that she considered the word “regular” to be vague and indefinite in contravention to the requirements of 35 USC 112. The examiner suggested that this objection could be remedied by substituting the word “rectangular” (from claim 29) for the word “regular” as it exists in claim 20, and cancel claim 29.

Further, Examiner Franklin indicated that she had the same objection to claim 33. That is, claim 33 and the claims dependent there from were in condition for allowance except for the presence of the word “regular” in reference to the grid but that this objection could be removed if applicants substituted the word, “rectangular” for the word “regular” in that claim. Therefore, the single issue in this application is whether there is support for characterizing the grid as “regular”.

In the first place, the examiner’s attention is called to original claim 13. It is beyond question that originally filed claims are part of the original disclosure. Therefore, the content of original claim 13 is original disclosure. It is pointed out that the very first step set forth in this method claim is, “...generating (24) a **regular** grid having a plurality of intersecting lines...” (emphasis added). Thus, there is specific basis in this application as originally filed for use of the term “regular” to characterize the grid. On this basis alone, the examiner’s objection should be withdrawn.

However, the examiner has also commented that this term "regular" is vague and indefinite and therefore a claim containing this word cannot be allowed. This position is respectfully traversed. The dictionary definition of the word, "regular" is, "1. conforming in form, build or arrangement to a rule, principle, type standard, etc.; orderly; symmetrical; 2. characterized by conformity to a fixed principle or procedure..." (Webster's New World Dictionary of the American Language second edition, latest copyright 1980). Another dictionary definition of the word "regular" is, "formed, built, arranged or ordered according to some established rule, law, principle, or type." A synonym for "regular" is "orderly". Orderly means arranged or disposed in some order or pattern, not necessarily any particular order or patterns, such as rectangular.

The term "regular grid" means a grid having a known or predetermined order. It means a grid that is ordered or arranged according to a known or predetermined rule, not necessarily rectangular. It is clear also that a "regular grid" does not necessarily have to have the same spacing between all of the values that make up the grid, only that the structure of the grid is known to a subsequent decoding method. A regular grid is one that is predetermined and known, and thus is not affected or deformed by unknown or uncontrolled deformations.

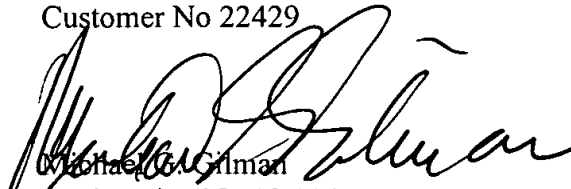
It is therefore urged that the examiner reconsider her objections to the specific language of claims 20 and 33 and withdraw these objections.

In the outstanding action, the examiner has objected to certain figures of the drawing for failure to indicate that these figures depict the state of the prior art. In order to rectify this objection, a revised first page of drawings is being submitted herewith. It should be noted that figures 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, and 2 now bear the legend "PRIOR ART".

Since all of the objections raised by the examiner have been met, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance, and such action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attach: New first page of drawings

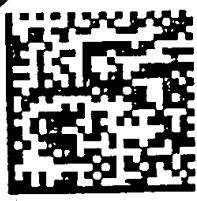
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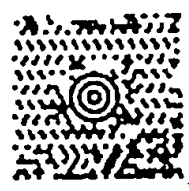
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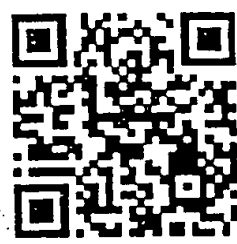
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Fig. 1a



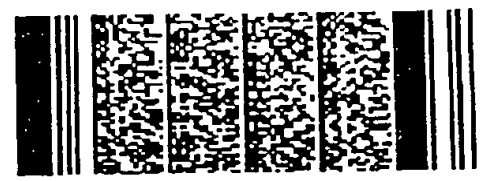
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Fig. 1b



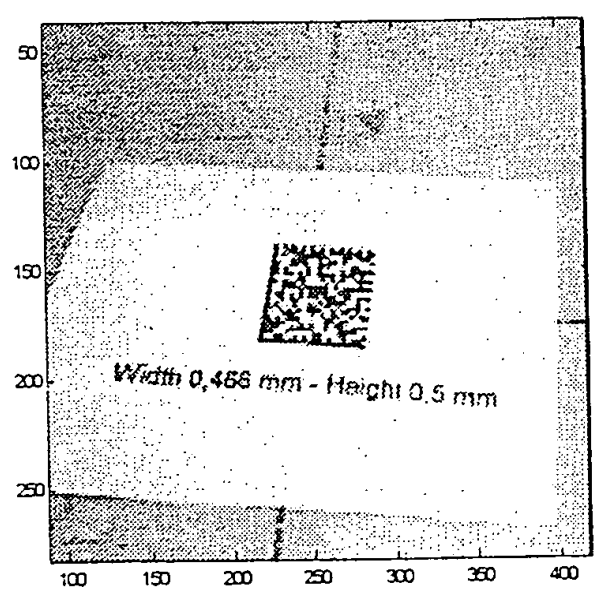
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Fig. 1c



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Fig. 1d



PRIOR ART
Fig. 2

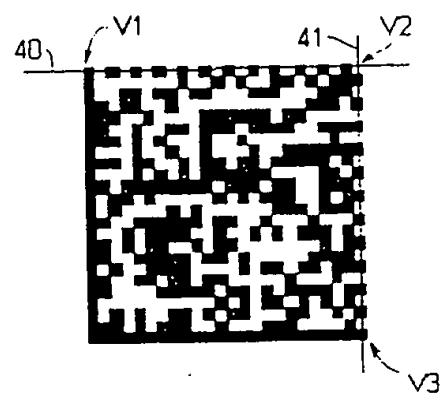


Fig. 5